extent of this purchase; and appropriate portion of it will have to be counted against the periodical quota for the Province.

"(c) A portion, perhaps about 4,000 tons, of certain categories will be released to the public, through the Agricultural Department.

"(f) The materials are in the form suitable for our requirements."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO:—"May I know, Sir, whether this quantity that has been purchased will be set off against the quota or whether it will be in addition to the quota that we are entitled to have?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"Not all, Sir. A portion of it will be set off." 11-15 a.m.

*Amalgamation of the various Engineering services.*

*73 *Q.*—SRI P. VEERABHADRASWAMI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state when the proposed amalgamation of the various Engineering services will come into force?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—"The question is under examination and final orders will be issued after taking into account the decisions arrived at on certain recommendations made by the Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee regarding the Highways Department."

*Mettupalayam-Coonoor Bus service.*

*74 *Q.*—ABDUL LATIF FAROOKHI SAHIB BAHADUR (on behalf of Sri Medai Dalavoi Kumaraswami Mudaliyar): Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the managing director of the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Service, a bus company in Coimbatore district, was convicted to a day's imprisonment and to a fine in a criminal case connected with his bus service;

(*b*) whether the Sessions Judge in his judgment on his appeal remarked that the sentence was too light;

(*c*) whether the Government propose to appeal for an enhancement of the sentence;

(*d*) whether the Government propose to cancel the permits of this owner in view of his conviction in a criminal case connected with his bus service;

(*e*) whether the owner of the bus service was connected with certain enquiry by the Police regarding payment of illegal gratification to Government servants; and

(*f*) if so, in what stage the enquiry stands now?

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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Minister for Prohibition) :—" (a) The Managing Director of the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Service, Limited, was convicted under section 193, Indian Penal Code, by the City First-class Magistrate, Coimbatore, in C.C. No. 3 of 1946 on his file and sentenced to imprisonment till the rising of the court and to a fine of Rs. 500 or, in default, to suffer rigorous imprisonment for three months.

" (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (c) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (d) This is a matter for consideration by the transport authority which granted the permits with reference to section 60 of the Motor Vehicles Act.

" (e) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (f) The enquiry is still proceeding."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, the details of the offence? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The offence is intentionally falsifying evidence by preparing and sending false trip sheet and by producing it to the Secretary, Road Traffic Board, knowing it to be false."

*Representation from the Erode Co-operative House Mortgage Bank, Ltd.*

* 75 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state whether the Government have received any representation from the Erode Co-operative House Mortgage Bank, Ltd., seeking some facilities to develop house building and what the orders of Government thereon are?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Minister for Prohibition) :—" Yes, Sir. The bank applied for the assistance of the Government for the acquisition of sites for construction of houses, the grant of a loan for financing its house construction scheme and facilities for obtaining building materials on a priority basis. A housing committee has been constituted for Erode for selection of sites and a Co-operative House Construction Society is to be registered for the purpose or as part of the general scheme of Government to relieve the existing housing shortage.

The Government considered that the House Construction Society will be able to carry out the house building schemes more urgently and in a larger measure with the financial assistance of the Government and that as the Mortgage Bank proposed to finance this scheme mainly with funds borrowed from State concerns, it would not be possible to provide State loans to the Bank. They have accordingly informed the Bank